

Ecclesiastes
Gail Arterburn –2025

Monday, 9:30 – 11:00 am
To be discussed – 01/27/25

Lesson 4
Eccl 4:1-16

1. Read Eccl. 4:1-3. How does the author's view in v. 1 challenge or affirm your understanding of those suffering from oppression?

2. What two conclusions does he make in vv. 2-3? Do you agree with him? How is similar thinking sometimes used today as the rationale for abortion?

3. Read Eccl. 4:4-6. Why was the man's labor in verse 4 considered meaningless, a chasing after the wind? Can you think of a time when your actions were driven by envy? How did that work out? Did you receive satisfaction and peace from your efforts? Why or why not?

4. Describe the three different approaches to work that are given in vv. 5-6. Which is the best choice? Why?

5. Read Eccl. 4:7-8. Why was this man's toil endless? Why does the author conclude this too was meaningless?

6. The Bible actually says a lot about the fact that work is good and we should work – whether working to provide for ourselves and others or in working for the Lord. How important is our motivation for doing so? Do you think most people enjoy their job? How can wrong motivation even impact our joy in working for God?

7. Read Eccl. 4:9-12. What are the benefits of companionship? One of the greatest societal problems today is loneliness. How important is the fellowship of believers in the local church?

8. Read Eccl. 4:13-16. This passage deals with the nature of power, position and success. Why does Solomon say *this too is meaningless, a chasing after the wind*?